

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 89- 21

APPROVAL OF SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY
CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 88-160 ESTABLISHING
GUIDELINES FOR THE DISPOSAL OF EXTRACTED GROUND WATER
FROM GROUND WATER CLEANUP PROJECTS

WHEREAS:

1. The investigation and cleanup of ground water contamination problems has been and will continue to be a high priority task for the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (San Francisco Bay Regional Board).
2. The cleanup of such problems is normally accomplished by pumping contaminated ground water from the affected aquifer(s), thus creating a waste requiring environmentally acceptable disposal methods.
3. The alternatives for disposal of such wastes are reclamation (including possible reinjection), discharge to publicly owned treatment works (POTWs), or treatment with discharge to local receiving waters under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.
4. After consideration of public input, the San Francisco Bay Regional Board has adopted Resolution No. 88-160 (Attachment A) which establishes guidelines for the disposal of extracted ground water from ground water cleanup projects using the available alternatives.
5. Resolution No. 88-160 also directs the San Francisco Bay Regional Board Executive Officer to prepare for consideration a modification of the exception provisions for discharge prohibitions contained in the San Francisco Bay Region Water Quality Control Plan so as to directly address discharge of extracted ground water from ground water cleanup projects.
6. The San Francisco Bay Regional Board did not adequately recognize and encourage the resource value of the extracted and treated ground water and its reclamation (e.g., in-plant reuse, irrigation, ground water irrigation, and other beneficial uses) when applicable water quality standards can be achieved.

7. Section 13245.5 of the California Water Code specifies that guidelines adopted by a Regional Water Quality Control Board do not become effective until approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the State Board approves the guidelines for the disposal of extracted ground water for ground water cleanup projects as adopted by the San Francisco Bay Regional Board in Resolution No. 88-160 with the following understandings: (1) that language be included in the required Basin Plan amendment specifically recognizing the resource value of extracted and treated ground water and urging its utilization for the highest beneficial use for which applicable water quality standards can be achieved, and (2) that, as a guideline, Resolution No. 88-160 has no regulatory effect.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Administrative Assistant to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on March 16, 1989.


Maureen Marche
Administrative Assistant to the Board